

INTELLOFAX 1A

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Altenburg Airfield

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DATE OF CONTENT 31 January to 21 February 1952

DATE PREPARED 17 March 1952

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REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 31 January 1952, the entire landing field of Altenburg airfield was covered with snow 5 cm deep. Several soldiers started clearing the snow with shovels in the northern section of the runway. The entire terrain north of the north end of the runway was staked off. Five civilians were seen on the road north of the field. They were surveying the terrain. No construction material was observed. * The entire airfield was guarded by sentries posted at several points. New off limits signs were posted. The antenna mast about 15 meters high was still observed in the northern extension of the runway. From this mast, lines extended to the south toward the barracks installation and toward the north.
2. On 21 February, about 30 dark twin-engine planes were parked in two groups on the dispersal area in the southeastern section of the landing field. No jet aircraft were observed. ** Between 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., there was no flying. The weather was hazy and the landing field was soft.
3. Some small wooden buildings on concrete foundations were completed and others were under construction at the place where the approach road from the north turns toward the barracks installation at the northern extension of the runway. About 30 German civilians were employed there. They said that kitchens and mess halls were to be located in these buildings. Large-scale expansion was allegedly to start at the northern extension of the runway in the spring of 1952. Large quantities of boards were already stock piled. About 12 large holes each 1 to 2 square meters large and 80 to 150 cm deep were observed in this area. It appeared that the target ranges were to be vacated. The radio mast was at its previous location. Three white flags were placed along the east edge of central section of the runway.

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* Comment. Altenburg airfield is to be improved so that it is like Briesen-Brand airfield.

** Comment. This information confirms that the field is occupied by an air transport regiment which is equipped with Li-2s.

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CLASSIFICATION

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